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FOOD INFORMATION CALENDAR

OFFICE OF INFORMATION • UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

September 9, 1944 No. 75

POD PICKING REPORTS . . . . When Uncle Sam asks his boys and girls for help he usually gets gratifying results---the milkweed pod harvest is no exception judging from reports now coming in. In Oswego county, New York, 4-H Clubbers had 500 bags of pods after 3 days of picking and are expecting to have 1,500 by the end of the week...In Crawford county, Michigan, a school of 11 pupils picked 500 bags during their first week of the milkweed harvest...At the Pennsylvania State Hospital for Crippled Children at Elizabethtown, the ambulatory patients---boys and girls who can get around by themselves---are out picking pods this week.

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STORE MORE ONIONS . . . . Onions have been designated as a victory food selection for the period from September 21 through October 7 by WFA's Director of Distribution, Lee Marshall. The forthcoming drive will emphasize the home storing of an additional supply of onions to relieve a commercial storage problem. While the crop this year is expected to be the biggest in history, . . . Government requirements are large and the supply for civilians is estimated to be about what is needed for normal consumption. Unless storage space is found in homes there is a possibility of an onion shortage again next spring.

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AGRICULTURAL RELEASES OF SPECIAL IMPORTANCE . . . . WFA increases beef set-aside to 60 percent-3071; WFA urges poultry packers to order containers-3075; Small Australian wheat crop in prospect-3076; Test auction sale of surplus property to farmers-3083; Warehouses may accept poultry in barrels or baskets through September 12-3085; 1944 support prices for Valencia Muscat raisins-3087; Wiley anniversary to be commemorated-3098; Suggestions toward reaching post-war objectives in Agriculture (Wickard)-3101; WFA asks that big corn crop states get first pickers-3103; WFA asks speed-up in turkey processing-3105; Farmers repaying mortgage debts at rapid rate-3106; Fruit spreads and canned vegetables removed from rationing-3108; Government expected to require 5 million sacks of onions-3109; Late apples released from restrictions of WFO-69-3121; Corn picker production larger than in any previous year-3123.

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OTHER RELEASES OF AGRICULTURAL INTEREST. . . . October prices for snapbeans and cucumbers-OPA-4738; Ceiling prices for fresh peaches produced in Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Colorado and New Mexico--OPA-4748; Potato price increased--OPA-4752; Price Administrator asks Congress to remove band on use of Government standards in pricing canned fruits and vegetables--OPA-4756; Rationing of coal and wood for heating and cooking stoves to consumers will end October 15--OWI-3545; Use of 1-point blue tokens to be discontinued October 1--OPA-4766.

CONFERENCE ON REHABILITATION . . . . The Extension Service and the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations have called a conference to be held in Washington, D. C., September 19 to 22, to discuss the most effective use of agricultural extension methods in the rural rehabilitation of war-torn countries. In addition to representation by agricultural authorities from the Department and various state agencies, invitations have been sent to individuals within such agencies as UNRRA, FEA, the Interim Food Commission, and to agricultural attaches of governments represented in Washington. This is distinctly not a policy-forming conference and persons asked to participate have been invited because of their knowledge of, and interest in, the areas concerned and not as official representatives of any agency. Fact sheets on each region and county are being prepared.

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"SHALL I BE A FARMER", (AWI-105), the publication we have mentioned several times heretofore in this Calendar, is now off the press. This little booklet, 34 pages and pants pocket size, is directed at men and women in the Armed Forces who think they may want to farm and would like to know something about the opportunities and limitations of farming as a way of life. It was written by Paul Maris of FSA under the auspices of the Interbureau Committee on Post-war Programs. About 25,000 copies are being sent to the Armed Forces as notification prior to printing of their own supplies. Notification copies are also being sent to Department agencies.

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ONIONS, "A" AWARDS, and MILKWEED are all on the schedule to be discussed over the Farm and Home Hour September 16. Ruth Van Deman of BHN&HE and Connie B. Gay of the Radio Service will talk about "Onions--a Victory Food Selection"; "Food Processors Get "A" Awards" will be the subject of a dialog between Kenneth Berky, Chief of OD's Industry Operations Branch, and Connie B. Gay; also to be heard,by transcription, are Farmer Ed Paxton, County Agent Earl Rehl, 4-H Club Members Miss Pat Groves and George Woodward, all of Clermont County, Ohio, and Al Bond of the Radio Service. They will talk about how Ohio 4-H'ers Plan Milkweed Pod Collection.

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WHAT ABOUT GARDENS FOR NEXT YEAR? is the title of next week's Victory Garden program to be heard over the Blue Network with Moore and DuMars officiating. This is the last of the current Victory Garden series--a series that has run weekly for 72 weeks except for the period between November 1, 1943 and February 4, 1944.

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"WHAT POSTWAR INFLATION WAS LIKE" will be the subject of the regular OPA broadcast for next Thursday evening at 7:45 EWT. A housewife and a businessman will be on hand to talk over with Price Administrator Chester Bowles, their experiences following the last war.

CONSUMER TIME'S RADIO SHOW for September 16 will be broadcast from the deck of a fishing trawler out on Lake Michigan. The story of how fish are caught in a 3-mile net, how they are handled once caught, and the whole procedure of fishing will be dramatically told. A 24-page booklet entitled "Wartime Fish Cookery", will be offered which gives recipes for preparing seafoods of all kinds.

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NUTRITION DISPLAY . . . . Tying in with the current national nutrition drive an exhibit on the subject will be on display in the patio of the Department's Administration building during the week beginning September 11. Included will be a section showing all the materials used throughout the country this month in connection with the National Nutrition Campaign; Department publications on food and health will be displayed; and there will also be a special section showing the scientific advancement that has taken place in nutrition. Department personnel, and field personnel who are in the city next week, are urged to see this display.

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401 MILLION FEET OF LUMBER FOR FARMERS . . . . The War Production Board has announced that a total of 8,919,000,000 board feet of lumber has been authorized for distribution by claimant agencies and WPB for the fourth quarter of 1944. Of this footage 401,000,000 board feet has been assigned to the War Food Administration for re-allotment to farmers through county AAA committees. WFA's request was for 422,000,000 feet. Further details on fourth quarter lumber allocations are contained in WPB press release No. 6417.

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The DROUGHT COMMITTEE of WFA will soon re-examine drought conditions as of September 1 in all doubtful counties. If conditions in these counties warrant, new drought designations may be made about September 15. Dairy production payments are increased by 10 cents per 100 pounds of milk in official drought countries.

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A FATS AND OILS FACT SHEET has been prepared and is scheduled to go out within the next week or ten days, primarily to OWI media people. Distribution will also be made, however, to field offices of Department agencies according to requests submitted by them.

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The NATIONAL WARTIME NUTRITION PROGRAM has been assigned by OWI's Domestic Radio Bureau as the allocation subject for the week beginning September 11.

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